

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /098 W

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P R 241324Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7130

INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 13685

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNGA ET FT US

SUBJ: 30TH UNGA, 4TH COMMITTEE: TFAI: EMBASSY VIEWS

REF: STATE 276229

THERE FOLLOWS EMB'S VIEWS REQUESTED REFTEL:

1. WE SHOULD FOR PRESENT DECLINE CO-SPONSOR ANY PARTISAN
TFAI RESO WHERE ACT OF CO-SPONSORSHIP ALIGNS US WITH
EITHER SOMALIA OR ETHIOPIA AGAINST THE OTHER. ALTHOUGH
WE SHOULD NOT SAY SO AT PRESENT, US CAPACITY DIPLOMATICALLY
TI MITIGATE TENSIONS IN HORN WOULD BE DIMINISHED BY ANY
OTHER COURSE, TO LITTLE GAIN.

2. IN DECLINING SUCH CO-SPONSORSHIP, WE MIGHT SAY TO PMG
THAT (A) USG'S GENERAL POSITION IN FAVOR OF SELF-DETERMI-
NATION IS WELL KNOWN; (B) WE AGREE WITH EPMG THAT OPTIMAL
SOLUTION TO PROBLEMS ATTENDANT UPON TFAI'S DECOLONIZATION
REQUIRES COOPERATION ALL NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES; (C) IN
ABSENCE OF A NON-PARTISAN COMPROMISE RESO, THEREFORE, WE
PREFER TO REMAIN ON SIDELINES. ABSTENTION VOTE ON PARTI-
SAN RESOL WOULD BE LOGICAL EXTENSION OF THIS POSITION. HOWEVER, WE
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SEE NO DISADVANTAGE TO US IN CO-SPONSORSHIP OF ANY COM-

PROMISE RESO ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PRINCIPALS INCLUDING FRANCE.

3. WE AGREE WITH DEPT'S PROPOSED REMARKS TO EPMG CONCERNING OUR UNWILLINGNESS TO CO-SPONSOR PARTISAN RESO (SHOULD THIS POSSIBILITY EVENTUATE) EXCEPT THAT WE SHOULD AVOID ANY STATEMENT THAT COULD BE MISREAD AS UNDUE ATTACHMENT TO TFAI STATUS QUO ANTE (SECOND SENTENCE PARA 3 REFTEL). FROM HERE IT SEEMS PRETTY CLEAR THAT STATUS TFAI ALREADY CHANING, WHATEVER THE "GRAVE REPERCUSSIONS IN A VOLATILE REGION." WE SHOULD, THEREFORE, STRIVE TO APPEAR WILLING TO USE OUR INFLUENCE TO HELP THE PRINCIPALS MANAGE THESE REPERCUSSIONS TO KEEP THEM WITHIN BOUNDS. IT ALSO SEEMS TO US THAT RISKS OF DESTABILIZATION WILL CONTINUE TO BE FUNCTION PRIMARILY OF RIVAL AMBITIONS AND ONLY SECONDARILY OF DIPLOMATIC STYLE. AT THIS EARLY STAGE IN THE PROCEEDINGS THEY MIGHT WELL BE ENHANCED BY INSUFFICIENT PUBLIC AIRING OF THE ISSUES AND THE RISKS. IN MAKING THIS OBSERVATION WE OBVIOUSLY DO NOT MEAN TO DETRACT FROM THE CIRTUES OF DISPASSIONATE QUIET DIPLOMACY. WE DO WISH TO POINT OUT, HOWEVER, THAT CLEAR PERCEPTION BY ALL CONCERNED OF RISKS IN "CONTENTIOUS DE-COLONIZATION" MORE LIKELY TO ENHANCE RESTRAINING PRESSURES/GUARANTEES WHICH OAU MEMBERS MAY EXERCISE/ASSUME VIS-A-VIS ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA IN GOOD TIME, THE SEEMINGLY QUIET EVLOLUATION LEADING TO PAINFUL AWAKENING ON TFAI INDEPENDENCE DAY A L'ANGOLAISE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDEPENDENCE, MEETING VOTING RECORDS, TFAI, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ADDIS13685
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750408-1015
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751117/aaaaaoqv.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 276229
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 30TH UNGA, 4TH COMMITTEE: TFAI: EMBASSY VIEWS
TAGS: PFOR, ET, FT, US, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006